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MAY 05 2004

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

-----Original Message-----

From: RaVen Sequoia [mailto:4_raven_7@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 9:55 PM

To: Michael Copps

Subject:

Dear Mr. Copps,

Dear Mr. Powell,

As a Deaf advocate in the NW of United States; I want to express my thoughts in regarding to the VRS.

VRS is helping millions of Deaf and Hard of Hearing members from this growing community to become independent citizens in America.

For those hearing folks receiving the phone calls from us Deaf callers through the VRS have shown much better cooperation in listening. With the TTY VRS often got hung up before the interpreter had the chance to explain its' service. Ever since I started using VP100, not once have hearing strangers who never used VRS have hung up on me; as I was able to quickly respond and everyone benefited from this transaction. That itself shows a lot of how well it's benefiting everyone. Realize how many Deaf consumers patronizes hearing businesses.

VRS enables us striving independent Deaf professionals to have a professional and courteous rapport with customers. On the personal notes, many family members who cannot sign with their Deaf children are finally, for the first time, truly communicating in real-time mode.

Please consider carefully in allowing to have the VRS continuing enabled for the millions lives that is positively impacted with the great technology out there for us all to use.

Thank you for listening. An update is kindly appreciated.

RaVen Sequoia

Deaf Advocate

North West Coast

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